



A community volunteer educates a pregnant woman on newborn care at an antenatal clinic in Baringo County, Kenya. Photo credit: USAID

KENYA

AFYA UZAZI

Despite overall improvements in maternal and child health in Kenya, several areas in the counties of Baringo and Nakuru experienced minimal improvements in maternal and child mortality, skilled birth attendance, child immunization, or contraceptive prevalence. Rates of pregnant women attending at least four antenatal care visits were as low as 33 percent in the sub-county of Baringo South (DHIS2, 2015). Afya Uzazi aims to help address these disparities by working with the two counties to improve access to quality family planning and reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health (FP/RMNCAH) services. The program's name, which means “healthy parenthood” in Kiswahili, reflects its aim to increase the impact of health services through safe deliveries, healthy babies, and children, and planned and well-timed pregnancies. FP/RMNCAH interventions are integrated with nutrition and water, health, and sanitation activities. The program places an emphasis on youth and gender interventions, community action, data-driven decision-making, and sustainability.

OUR WORK

Afya Uzazi works with county governments to increase the availability and quality of FP/RMNCAH services in health facilities and communities, while implementing interventions that encourage care-seeking and health-promoting behaviors. The program uses multiple service delivery models tailored to local circumstances to build the capacity of health care workers, community health volunteers, and community-based organizations, in order to increase demand for health services through social and behavior change communication and community mobilization. The program also engages with national

government administration officers (NGAOs) to create demand for FP/RMNCAH services through community mobilization, referral, and community-facility linkage. Afya Uzazi builds on the current supply chain and human resources for health interventions to strengthen provider skills and health systems.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Since it started in 2016, Afya Uzazi has achieved the following results:

- Established 69 emergency obstetric and newborn care sites to provide appropriate life-saving maternity care.
- 11,630 adolescents accessed family planning services.
- 33,235 pregnant women completed the minimum four antenatal care visits, while 18,259 adolescents received antenatal care services.
- 45,826 women delivered with skilled birth attendants.
- 45,712 newborns received postnatal care services within two to three days after birth.
- 556,386 children under the age of 5 received Vitamin A supplements despite COVID-19 challenges.
- 72,468 children were fully immunized.
- 277 villages were triggered to achieve open defecation free status, with 69 villages certified open defecation free zones.
- 8,711 people (health care workers, community health volunteers, natural leaders, NGAOs) reached with sensitization/training/mentorship on COVID-19 risk communication.
- Supported 1,050 schools in Nakuru County with COVID-19 school opening preparedness.
- Supported health facilities with personal protective equipment during COVID-19 (10,000 surgical masks; 503 hand washing soaps; 605 hand sanitizers; 400 protective aprons; 100 face shields; 130 waste segregation bins; 27,000 color-coded bin liners; 400 Veronica buckets).

BUDGET: USD \$19,957,785

DURATION

2016-2021

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Baringo and Nakuru Counties

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

FHI 360

KEY PARTNERS

Gold Star Kenya

MISSION CONTACT

Sila Kimanzi

Activity Manager

Email: skimanzi@usaid.gov

PARTNER CONTACT

Dr. Marsden Solomon

Chief of Party

Email: MSolomon@afyauzazi.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email: usaidkea@usaid.gov

Website: www.usaid.gov/kenya

Facebook: USAIDKenya

Twitter: @USAIDKenya